



John Hoeven, Governor
Douglass A. Prchal, Director

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May 23, 2007

Dwight Comfort
ND Office of the State Engineer
900 East Boulevard Avenue
Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

RE: Dakota Gasification Company Pipeline Relocation Project

Dear Mr. Comfort:

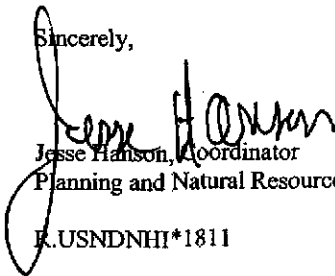
The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department has reviewed the above referenced proposal submitted by the Dakota Gasification Company to relocate a pipeline crossing Lake Sakakawea and the Missouri River located in Sections 21, 22, 27, and 34, T154N, R95W, McKenzie and Williams Counties.

Our agency scope of authority and expertise covers recreation and biological resources (in particular rare species and ecological communities). The project as defined does not affect state park lands that we manage or Land and Water Conservation Fund recreation projects that we coordinate.

The North Dakota Natural Heritage Inventory has limited rare species information from the project area. Regarding any reclamation efforts, we recommend that any impacted areas be revegetated with species native to the project area.

We appreciate your commitment to rare plant, animal and ecological community conservation, management and inter-agency cooperation to date. For additional information please contact Kathy Duttonhefner (701-328-5370 or kgduttonhefner@nd.gov) of our staff. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project.

Sincerely,


Jesse Hanson, Coordinator
Planning and Natural Resources Division

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Play in our backyard!